

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAR 05 2007

Attorney's Docket No. 7323  
Application No. 10/750,796  
Page 5

## REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

By the above amendments, claim 1 has been amended for clarification purposes, and now recites measuring an electrical resistance of the molten glass with at least one sensor comprising an inner tube connected to a first electrode and an outer tube connected to a second electrode. Support for such amendment can be found in the instant specification at least at page 8, lines 11-26. New claims 13-16 are directed to additional aspects of the claimed method, and support for such new claims can be found in the specification at least at page 8, lines 11-26.

In the Official Action, claims 1-5, 9, 10 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,278,844 (*Bell et al*). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a method for controlling at least one process parameter while processing a molten glass, comprising: measuring an electrical resistance of the molten glass with at least one sensor comprising an inner tube connected to a first electrode and an outer tube connected to a second electrode, to obtain an electrical resistance measurement; and adjusting at least one process parameter based on the electrical resistance measurement.

*Bell et al* does not disclose each feature recited in independent claim 1, and as such fails to constitute an anticipation of such claim. For example, *Bell et al* does not disclose measuring an electrical resistance of the molten glass with at least one sensor comprising an inner tube connected to a first electrode and an outer tube connected to a second electrode, to

Attorney's Docket No. 7323  
Application No. 10/750,796  
Page 6

obtain an electrical resistance measurement, as recited in claim 1. By comparison, *Bell et al* discloses a probe comprising parallel electrically conducting elements, wherein a current flows through the electrically conducting molten glass in the gap between the electrodes (col. 1, lines 56-72). *Bell et al* simply has no disclosure of measuring an electrical resistance of the molten glass with at least one sensor comprising an inner tube connected to a first electrode and an outer tube connected to a second electrode, as recited in claim 1.

For at least the above reasons, it is apparent that *Bell* fails to constitute an anticipation of independent claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the above rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 8 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Bell et al*. Claims 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over *Bell et al* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,780,120 (*Varrasso et al*). Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

For the reasons discussed above, it is apparent that *Bell et al* fails to disclose or suggest measuring an electrical resistance of the molten glass with at least one sensor comprising an inner tube connected to a first electrode and an outer tube connected to a second electrode, to obtain an electrical resistance measurement, as recited in claim 1.

*Varrasso et al* fails to cure the above-described deficiencies of *Bell et al*. In this regard, the Patent Office has relied on *Varrasso et al* for disclosing a glass fiber forming bushing which is filled with molten glass (Official Action at page 4). However, like *Bell et al*, *Varrasso et al* does not disclose or suggest measuring an electrical resistance of the molten glass with at least one sensor comprising an inner tube connected to a first electrode and an outer tube connected to a second electrode, to obtain an electrical resistance measurement, as recited in claim 1.

Attorney's Docket No. 7323Application No. 10/750,796

Page 7

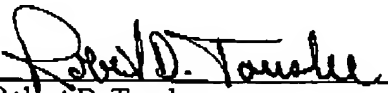
For at least the above reasons, it is apparent that no *prima facie* case of obviousness exists. Accordingly, withdrawal of the above §103(a) rejections is respectfully requested.

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 5, 2007

By:

  
Robert D. Touslee  
Registration No. 34,032

P.O. Box 625005  
Littleton, CO 80162  
(303) 978 2000